

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 H-01
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-----073781 262056Z /23

P 261941Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII PRIORITY 0000
INFO JCS WASHDC PRIORITY 0000
COMUS JAPAN YOKOTA AB PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 188645

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJECT: COST SHARING OBJECTIVES

REFS: A. CINCPAC 260530Z MAY 78
B. CINCPAC 070255Z JUN 78
C. TOKYO 0272/090510Z JAN 78
D. TOKYO 4023/140405Z MAR 78
E. CINCPAC 042112Z JUN 78

1. REF A PRESENTED CINCPAC VIEWS ON OVERALL COST SHARING OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES. REF B PROVIDED RECOMMENDED COST SHARING MULTIYEAR NEEDS FOR FY 1979 PRESENTATION TO THE GOJ. REFS C AND D ADDRESSED COST SHARING STRATEGIES, CONFIDENTIAL

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REF E DESCRIBED USFJ COSTS.

2. IN CONSIDERATION OF EMBASSY AND CINCPAC VIEWS AND OUR EVALUATION OF THE CURRENT POLITICAL CLIMATE HERE, WE BELIEVE THAT A COST SHARING PACKAGE IN 1979 DESERVES A VERY HIGH PRIORITY AMONG THE VARIED DIMENSIONS IN OUR DEFENSE RELATIONS WITH JAPAN. IN VIEW OF THE OBSTACLES TO BE OVER-

COME, THERE IS NO CERTAINTY OF SUCCESS. ON THE OTHER HAND, A LACK OF PROGRESS WILL EXACERBATE A GROWING FEELING OF IMPATIENCE ON THE HILL AND WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH.

RECENT NEWS STORIES ABOUT THE PLIGHT OF AMERICAN SERVICE-MEN IN GERMANY AND JAPAN HAVE MOVED SOME TO CALL FOR A HARDER-LINE APPROACH. OUR CURRENT STRATEGY OF NOT IMPOSING ANY DEMANDS SEEMS TO BE WORKING SUCCESSFULLY AND WE EXPECT OUR DECISIONS ON THE OKINAWA RIF TO HAVE A FAVORABLE EFFECT.

3. WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THAT PROGRESS ON COST SHARING THIS YEAR IS MAINLY DEPENDENT UPON WHAT DEVELOPS WITHIN THE GOJ, WE MUST INSURE THAT OUR EFFORTS COMPLEMENT THIS CONSENSUS BUILDING PROCESS. IN THE SHORT TERM THIS TRANS-LATES INTO TWO REQUIREMENTS; TO IMPLEMENT THE OKINAWA RIF WITH A POLITICALLY ACCEPTABLE SCENARIO AND TO PROVIDE THE GOJ WITH ANY INFORMATION THEY REQUIRE CONCERNING THE NEEDS OF OUR FORCES IN JAPAN. THE FORMER APPEARS TO BE WELL IN HAND BUT WILL REQUIRE OUR CONTINUING ATTENTION. ON THE LATTER, WE HAVE PROVIDED THE GOJ WITH DATA CONCERNING THE COSTS OF MAINTAINING OUR FORCES IN JAPAN (REF E), OUR OVERALL GOALS (REF A), AND OUR FACILITIES REQUIREMENTS IN GENERAL TERMS (REF B). WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE GOJ HAS REQUESTED MORE INFORMATION ON OUR FACILITIES REQUIREMENTS TO INCLUDE USG PRIORITIES AND DETAILED PROJECT DESCRIP-
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TIONS. YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE THESE DATA. IN KEEPING WITH JAPANESE POLITICAL REALITIES AND THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE CONSENSUS BUILDING PROCESS, HIGH PRI-ORITY SHOULD BE ACCORDED THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS: BEQ AND BOQ'S AT IWAKUNI, NAVY FAMILY HOUSING IN THE KANTO PLAIN, AIR FORCE FAMILY HOUSING AT YOKOTA, AND SOUND SUPPRESSORS AT KADENA.

4. LABOR COST SHARING MAY BECOME EVEN MORE MEANINGFUL SINCE THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE HAS ADDED A PROVISION TO THE DEFENSE APPROPRIATION ACT FOR FY 79 WHICH PROVIDES THAT NONE OF THE FUNDS APPROPRIATED BY THAT ACT MAY BE OBLIGATED AFTER MARCH 31, 1979, FOR THE PAYMENT OF SALARIES, WAGES, AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYMENT OF DIRECT-HIRE OR INDIRECT-HIRE FOREIGN NATIONAL EMPLOYEES IN EXCESS OF LOCALLY PREVAILING WAGES AND PRACTICES. THE FOLLOWING ITEMS CURRENTLY BEING PAID IN JAPAN AND SET FORTH IN DETAIL IN MAY 31 GAO REPORT, ARE IN EXCESS OF PREVAILING PRACTICES:

(A) 10 USFJ DIFFERENTIAL

(B) LANGUAGE ALLOWANCE

(C) PREMIUM PAY COMPUTATION

(D) 40 HR. WEEK/44 HRS. PAY

(E) PART OF SEVERANCE PAY

IF THE PROVISION IS NOT REMOVED BEFORE ENACTMENT, THESE
EXCESS PAYMENTS WILL EITHER HAVE TO BE TERMINATED OR GOJ
WILL HAVE TO PICK UP COSTS.

5. OUR OVERALL LONG TERM COST SHARING OBJECTIVES MUST
BALANCE OUR OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS WITH
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THE STATE OF JAPANESE INTERPRETATION OF THEIR OBLIGATIONS
UNDER CURRENT AGREEMENTS AND GOJ POSITIONS. AS MORE
FLEXIBLE INTERPRETATIONS OF THESE AGREEMENTS AND POSITIONS
EVOLVE (E.G. OF ARTICLE 24 AND THE OHIRA VIEW) WE SHOULD
SEEK THE FOLLOWING LONG TERM RELIEF, IN ORDER OF PRIORITY:

A. O&M COSTS TO INCLUDE

LABOR

UTILITIES

APPLICABLE SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

B. OPERATIONAL FACILITIES

C. SUPPORT FACILITIES INCLUDING HOUSING

D. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

6. AS A SEPARATE EFFORT, WE SHOULD TRY TO OBTAIN FIN-
ANCIAL RELIEF THROUGH DEFENSE COOPERATION PROJECTS WHICH
HAVE AS THEIR MAIN GOAL, IMPROVED OPERATIONAL READINESS
AND INTEROPERABILITY AS DISCUSSED IN PARA D OF REF A.
WE ARE CURRENTLY HANDLING THIS ON A PROJECT BY PROJECT
BASIS (E.G. THE MINE STORAGE PROPOSAL). WE INTENDED TO
REVIEW THIS AREA DURING THE DEFMIN VISIT HERE BUT WERE
UNABLE TO DO SO BECAUSE OF TIME CONSTRAINTS. WE ARE
NOW CONSIDERING REQUESTING A SEPARATE MEETING WITH GOJ
REPRESENTATIVES TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE. ADDRESSEES

VIEWS ON HOW BEST TO PROCEED ON THIS WOULD BE APPRE-
CIATED. CHRISTOPHER
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